

Simon's Words

ABOUT HOME

Essential Question: What is the significance of a text's themes to our everyday lives, personal knowledge, and experience?

Blogged about by Simon on January 22, 2012

When I was a kid, my Grandpa used to read the newspaper every morning. We lived in Lethbridge where he got the Globe and Mail. He read it out loud at breakfast. **I remember when I would hear him read all the things that were going on in the world that it was like I was being given tips and advice about how to live my own life by listening to the stories and learning the most significant or useful messages from them.** My Grandpa had the habit of saying the theme as he read, because my grandma would nag him to **teach me how to read better.**

The crime stories were **the best way**, not because I thought crime was cool, but because **you** could always see how the criminal had messed up and got caught. A good example of a them from a story where the criminal gets caught is, "parking your getaway car for a bank robbery in a disability stall will often result in being caught by the law."

Another article that had good information was hearing about fires or natural disasters of any kind. You always learned what to watch for, where to seek shelter, and what it was like to live through **a** environment even. And the themes of these articles were always important for surviving the elements. For example, around "Tornado Alley" in U.S.A., it **is** like trailer parks were Tornado-magnets. A whole town of houses would be left alone by tornados, but the trailer parks always got demolished. Here is where the themes of these articles become significant. Theme: Owning a trailer in a region where tornadoes happen may result in you enjoying a flying toilet ride in the middle of the night.

There are useful themes like this in everything I read and see. TV, the Internet, newspapers, and even video games all deliver themes in one way or another. The examples about the criminals and the tornadoes are not themes that I would necessarily need for anything, but these themes, and the other themes I see everyday are still important knowledge that sometimes will help me make decisions or judgements about my own life.

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LEAVE A COMMENT EDIT

Use past tense (was) when referring to a memory.

This is a good observation, Simon. I enjoyed reading your thoughts on this.

Simon, this is a run-on sentence. You have several good ideas here that would be emphasized more strongly if you separate and reword this as two sentences.







Do you think hearing the theme helped you read or understand more effectively?

Try to avoid using "you" in your writing. You are assuming the reader understands your perceptions, which is not always the case.

"Article" must be plural here because you are talking about more than one. As well, "was" is singular (referring to one object), so you may wish to use "were" when talking about more than one type of weather.

Use "an" before words beginning with a vowels.

Simon's 6.4 Essential Question Assessment

Value	Ideas	Impressions
 Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the essential question is <i>insightful</i> and <i>discerning</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You provide <i>precise support</i> that <i>aptly reinforces</i> your ideas and impressions.	<input type="checkbox"/> You create a <i>distinct</i> voice. <input type="checkbox"/> Your stylistic choices are <i>precise</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You <i>skilfully</i> develop a unifying effect.
 Proficient	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the essential question is <i>purposeful</i> and <i>considered</i> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You provide <i>specific support</i> that <i>strengthens</i> your ideas and impressions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You create a <i>convincing</i> voice. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your stylistic choices are <i>specific</i> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You <i>capably</i> develop a unifying effect.
 Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the essential question is <i>generalized</i> but <i>relevant</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You provide <i>adequate support</i> that <i>clarifies</i> your ideas and impressions.	<input type="checkbox"/> You create an <i>ordinary</i> voice <input type="checkbox"/> Your stylistic choices are <i>adequate</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You <i>adequately</i> develop a unifying effect.
 Limited	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the essential question is <i>vague</i> and/or <i>superficial</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You provide <i>imprecise</i> and/or <i>ineffectively</i> related support for your ideas and impressions.	<input type="checkbox"/> You create an <i>inappropriate</i> voice. <input type="checkbox"/> Your stylistic choices are <i>imprecise</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You <i>inadequately</i> develop a unifying effect.
 Resubmission Needed	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement and re-submission of your work.	
TOTAL: 12/15 = 80%	8/10	4/5
 Assessment	<p>Areas of strength: <i>Simon, your essential question response is well done! Your dry humour is attractive! Be careful with humour. Because it can offend some readers, better to be cautious.</i></p> <p>Might I suggest . . . <i>Be specific with your discussion topic when answering Essential Questions. Explore parts of the question with your own specific ideas. Giving a more specific example of one text in your concluding paragraph would have made your last paragraph less general.</i></p>	